

THE WEEKLY UNION TIMES.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic Economy, Politics, and the Current News of the Day.

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SPICY CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE.

Mr. Sherman (Ohio) said he was surprised at the objection to the decision of the electoral tribunal. It was constituted by the votes of the very gentlemen who now objected to its finding. The Senators objecting knew when they voted for the bill organizing the commission that these very questions of taking evidence were to be submitted to it, and they were in honor bound by its decisions. These objections now from the other side of the chamber were insulting to the tribunal and insulting to those who sustained its decision. He further declared that the decision of the tribunal was right. A good deal had been said about fraud, fraud, fraud and perjury, and Republicans were looked upon and pointed at as upholders of fraud. Suppose Congress could go behind these returns, it would find fraud, murder and violence on the part of the Democrats. The Louisiana returning board might be imprisoned; the members might be arrested; they might be driven to their graves, but they had simply obeyed the laws, and Congress had no power, thank God, to reverse the decision of the commission, and he asked if these pure and honorable men were to be assailed throughout the land by libellers and assassins?

Mr. Wallace said: The Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) says no lawyer asserted the right to go behind the returns, but the record shows that he himself said that this bill gave that right when he resisted its passage, and two of the commission—Messrs. Morton and Garfield—in the debate opposed the bill because it gave that right. This is sound law, and the Republican party cannot now say the facts are not as we state them. Gross and palpable frauds on the people of Louisiana, and through them on the American people, have been given voice and power to proclaim a lie, to nullify truth, and to reverse the will of a majority of that people. The broad offer to prove falsehood and forgery in the destruction of 10,000 lawful votes was rejected, and being rejected, the truth of the facts alleged cannot be denied; and this brings us to face the astounding legal declaration that the equities which ought to accompany the power of the majority of the whole people, the vitality of every government possesses for its own preservation against force and fraud, and the morality which pertains to every just system of laws, are utterly wanting in ours. The people will not respect a decision that refuses to hear the truth; that endorses falsehood, sustains forgery and places the Federal government at the mercy of the base.—They will and they should agitate for its reversal.

The result before us is fitly reached. It is the decree of party, wrung by party fealty from a judicial tribunal upon a purely legal question. May we never look upon it like again. If the returns certified by an executive whose only title to his place is the Federal bayonet are to be the conclusive proof of the title to the Presidency, then a government of law is supplanted by one of force and fraud.

Mr. Sargent (California) said frauds had been committed in Louisiana by the Democrats, and it was by such means that they expected to seize the Presidency. It was by such means that a few days ago an assassin attempted in the State House of Louisiana to take the life of the man whom more than one-half of the people of the State had elected Governor. [Laughter on the Democratic side.]

Mr. Sargent (looking towards Mr. Withers, of Virginia) said the Senator might laugh at that fact. Did the Senator laugh at the fact that one of his party papers in this city yesterday counseled the assassination of Gov. Hayes?

Mr. Withers—No; I do not laugh at that.

Mr. Sargent—Does the Senator laugh at the fact that his party is responsible for the assassination of President Lincoln? Does the Senator deny that?

Mr. Withers—Yes, sir; I deny it fairly and squarely.

Mr. Sargent, remaining, said the Democratic party was stained all over with the crime of assassination. It had assassinated from the best man God had ever created, Abraham Lincoln, down to the poorest negro in Mississippi.

Mr. Withers (Va.) said before replying to the tirade of the Senator from California he desired to state that the Democratic bill for the creation of the electoral commission, in the hope that the members drawn from the judicial department of the government would give the subject a fair judicial consideration, but he was mistaken. This decision had demonstrated the fact that the members of the Supreme Court, the highest tribunal in the land, would not rise above party in moving the pronounced politicians. This decision that Congress could not inquire into fraud in the electoral

vote of a State, was asserting a doctrine of State sovereignty never advocated by its wildest adherents. He then alluded to the charges made by the Senators from California (Mr. Sargent) and from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) that the Democratic party was responsible for all wrongs committed, and said three-fourths of the violence in the South had been instigated and brought about by the Republican party.

Mr. Boutwell said he was disappointed that the judgment of eight men had not been taken as a better evidence of the justice of the conclusion reached than the dissenting opinions of seven other men. He believed the people of this country would accept the judgment of the commission, and that the Supreme Court would lose no prestige by the action of its members.

DISSEMINATION OF DISEASES AT FUNERALS.

There is not wanting cases either in this country or Europe to prove the danger of disseminating contagious diseases at funerals. Not long since the Suffolk District Medical Society made some inquiries in reference to this question of dissemination in connection with patients dying of diphtheria, and elicited some very interesting and suggestive facts. The result was the passage of a recommendation to the effect that funerals of persons who had died of that disease should be private. We are pleased to notice that the Health Board of this city have issued a circular not only advising against public or church funerals of persons dying of diphtheria or of scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough. There does not seem to be any good reason why our health authorities should not actually forbid such funerals to be held in such places, but that the family of the deceased should be compelled to publish, with the announcement of the death, the particular contagious disease of which the patient had died, so that there should be the least possible danger with strictly private funerals. We have in mind a whole family of children which was sacrificed to scarlet fever by a neglect of this precaution, besides many scattered cases. Such, however, are so much more the rule than the exception, that it becomes almost criminal not to give a suitable warning in advance. In this connection it would be well to consider the possibility of restricting the transportation of the bodies of children dying of these diseases to hearses, rather than permitting the use of carriages for that purpose.—*New York Medical Record.*

BLACKBERRY JAM.

Yesterday morning, while a little colored chimney-sweep was engaged in sweeping one of the chimneys at the Citadel, in the left wing, over the Battery Barracks, he became fastened in the chimney, and found it impossible to extricate himself. The cries of the little fellow attracted the attention of the soldiers, who endeavored to release him by means of ropes; but, after several efforts, it was found impossible to move him from his perilous position either by hauling down or pulling up, and before the youngster was brought to light again, ten feet of the chimney had to be torn down. He was almost suffocated when released from his imprisonment, and has struck for higher wages.—*News and Courier.*

THE ELECTRIC PLANT OF NICARAGUA.

A plant, supposed to be new, has been found in Nicaragua, which, if what is said of it be true, it is a great vegetable curiosity. It has been named "Phytolacca Electrica." It is said to possess very pronounced electro-magnetic properties. The hand is sensibly benumbed upon touching the shrub, and the magnetic influence is felt at a distance of seven or eight feet. The magnetic needle is sensibly perturbed, becoming more and more so until it reaches the centre of the shrub, when the disturbance is transformed into a very rapid gyratory movement. The intensity of the phenomenon varies with the hours of the day, and at night it is hardly perceptible. It attains its maximum about 2 P. M. In stormy weather the energy of the action is augmented. No insects or birds have been seen on the shrub.

COLD WATER ON HIS ELOQUENCE.

"Amelia, for thee—yes, at thy command I'd tear this eternal firmament into a thousand fragments—I'd gather the stars one by one as they tumble from the regions of ethereal space and put them in my trousers pockets; I'd pluck the sun—that oriental god of day that traverses the blue arch of heaven in such majestic splendor—I'd tear him from the sky and quench its bright of flames in the fountain of my eternal love."

Col. Estlin.—Raymond, the actor, in Washington, playing to full houses, raking in several hundred dollars nightly.—In the lawsuit scene he has introduced a new thing. When asked if he knows the defendant, he straightens himself up with an emphatic "I decline to answer." This brings down the house. The question is pressed, and he appeals to the court, "Am I vassal and a peer?"—Can you imagine the scene.—*Washington.*

THE REEL OF THE DYING TYRANT.

When the Potomac boats pass Mt. Vernon, even at this late day, when every vestige of republican government and American liberty is gone, they toll a requiem to the memory of the immortal Washington; but it remains for the "drunken Galena tanner" to forbid freeborn American citizens in South Carolina from an innocent display of their patriotism on the 22d of February, 1877. Last night the gallant Col. Black, a gentleman and a patriot, who fought for "the old flag," and who is here among us merely as "a looker on in Vienna," in an official way, received orders, dictated by the dying dog, and instigated by the carpet-bag pretender from Massachusetts, at present in our midst, which compels him to address the following note to Capt. Hugh S. Thompson, of the militia:

POST OF COLUMBIA.
COLUMBIA, S. C., February 20, 1877.

Capt. Thompson Columbia, S. C.—DEAR SIR: I have the honor to notify you that I have this day been directed, by the honorable Secretary of War to inform you that His Excellency the President of the United States directs me to notify you that the members of the so-called rifle clubs, who, under his proclamation of the 17th of October last, were instructed to disband, will not be permitted to make any demonstration or parade on the 22d instant, as is said to be contemplated; and it is hoped you will give a cheerful obedience to this order, and notify the members of your club, or company, thereof, in order to prevent a parade taking place.

My orders require me to see that no such parade takes place.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. M. BLACK,
Lieutenant Colonel 18th Infantry, Commanding Post.

The above is but a fitting sequel to the wretched fraud which has been perpetrated upon the American people within the last few days—a fraud which will go further towards destroying the great republic, and all that there was good in it, than a thousand rebellions (as they were termed) by the Southern people.

In consequence of the above order Gov. Hampton has issued the following patriotic PROCLAMATION:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
COLUMBIA, Feb. 20, 1877.

His Excellency the President of the United States having ordered that the white militia companies of this State should not parade on the 22d instant, to celebrate Washington's birthday; in deference to the office he holds, I hereby call upon these organizations to postpone to some future day this manifestation of their respect to the memory of that illustrious President, whose highest ambition it was as it was his chief glory, to observe the constitution and obey the laws of his country.

If the arbitrary commands of a Chief Executive, who has not sought to emulate the virtues of Washington, deprive the citizens of this State of the privilege of joining publicly in paying reverence to that day, so sacred to every American patriot, we can at least show by our obedience to constituted authority, however arbitrarily exercised, that we are not unworthy to be the countrymen of Washington.

We must, therefore, remit to some auspicious period, which I trust is not far distant, the exercise of our right to commemorate the civic virtues of that unselfish character, who wielded his sword only to found and perpetuate that American constitutional liberty which is now denied to the citizens of South Carolina.

WM. HAMPTON,
Governor.

MARRYING FOR MONEY.

The Rev. Geo. C. Baldwin very truthfully says: "Gold cannot buy happiness, and the parents who compel their daughters to marry for money or station, commit a grievous sin against humanity and God. And the woman who marries a man for his wealth, finds that she has made a terrible bargain, and that the glittering of heartless grandeur are phosphorescent glitterings of heart-wretchedness; that her heart will be gilded misery, and her oblige will be like a dog on the bleak side of a desert mountain, where cold moon-beams sometimes glitter, but no bird sings, but wild storms howl and hoarse thunders roar; and through the sweeping storms shall be heard the stern voice of the great God, saying, Your riches are corrupted, and your strength is wasted, and your gold shall be a witness against you, and set at your head as if it were fire."

Some people have wondered all kinds of things about the nature of the soul's exit, once it leaves the body. The Rev. Joseph C. ... at ... death is but ... al analysis ... brave enough ... as yet ...

STOCK LAW.

Effect on the West.

The necessity of enclosing with a fence is the badge of Western farming. A man buys a quarter section, and is compelled to make either one or two miles of fence—the quantity depending on the circumstance whether he "joins fences" or not. He may wish to raise wheat and keep no stock; but he is compelled to fence just the same, to defend himself against his neighbors' cattle. If they have not more than fifty head, it will be cheaper for him to go upon their farms and enclose their pastures, than to build his own boundary fence.

The squatter finds to his amazement that his fence will cost five times as much as his land did—*not less than four hundred dollars a mile.* He has teams, tools, and boys sufficient to raise fifty to a hundred acres of wheat, but not having money enough to fence it, is driven to the alternative of renting of others, and letting his own rich land lie idle. Farmers can about as well afford to pay ten dollars per acre for a farm, and be obliged to fence only enough to restrain their own stock, as to pay five dollars per acre, and be compelled to fence against the stock of the State.

Many men rent all their lives, who would buy land and pay for it, were it not for the serious expense of fencing. The writer in the Illinois Report, already quoted, says: "About three-fourths of all the 'sussins' in Illinois may be fairly charged to the practice of fencing crops, rather than stock.—Had Illinois passed a law thirty, twenty, or even ten years since, that stock should be fenced, or otherwise taken care of by its owners, I do not believe there would be an acre of good prairie uncultivated in the State. I know this is a strong statement when we think how many acres of the best land in the world are yet 'lying out,' but those who have lived in the State but the last ten years have seen miles of prairie come under the plow right around them, even under the crop fencing in doubt.—During the wheat mania of a few years since, a large portion of the prairies of central Illinois would have been 'tugged' bottom side up, had it not been for the expense of fencing. * * * We have spent millions of dollars in Michigan pine to keep our corn and wheat from going off our farms to prey on our neighbors' hogs and cattle!"

Under a uniform law compelling every man to take care of his stock, and insuring him against harm from his neighbors, it is certain that the population of the Western States would have been some millions greater than now, while their wealth would have proportionately increased. Moreover, the farms would have been better cultivated, the houses better built, the barns larger and more comfortable, and the average stock of purer breed and higher quality. Let every legislature say to every settler, "Take care of your own stock, and we will see that your neighbor takes care of his," and two farms will be opened along the frontier where one now is. The West seems to be perversely blind to its own interest in this matter; but it will not much longer be "the poor man's asylum," unless it shall open its eyes, and, by relieving him of the onerous "fence tax," place the virgin soil within his reach.

Injustice of the Present System.

The proof of the bad policy of our present system of fencing, has suggested, also, its injustice. To compel A to fence against B's cattle, is morally and socially wrong. It inverts the relation of things. It takes property from A without rendering to him an equivalent. Corn, wheat, oats, fruit trees, vegetables, stay at home quietly, trespassing on nobody, and interfering with nobody. Shall we put the onus of fencing on stationary or on locomotive property? Shall we burden with the cost of fencing the man whose property stays where it is put, and can not get away? or on the man whose property has legs, horns, and grinders, with a graverous appetite?

The writer in the Illinois Report asks: "Is there any good reason why one man should be compelled to build from one to ten miles of fence to protect his crops from his neighbors' stock, when such neighbors might do it with one-tenth the fence? Can any one give me a good reason why the law should be that a man shall stand guard over his one hundred and sixty acres of grain, rather than his neighbor over his one cow? Does it does it not, seem right that every man shall take care of his own stock? and, as a corollary, that he shall be compelled to make only as much, or so little fence as is necessary to do that thing?"

The Law of Fencing.

"Law," says Blackstone, "is a rule of society, authorizing what is right and forbidding what is wrong." So we shall not expect to find the law, in the present case, commanding what has been shown to be flagrantly unjust. We are not disappointed. The common law does not require any man to fence against stock.—It is left to the man to make every owner of stock responsible for all depredations that it shall commit.—*Helping Hand.*

Mississippi, like the other reconstructed States that have escaped from the clutches of the carpet-baggers, is recovering from the effects of the spoliation to which it was subjected for a long time after the war.—The annual report of the Hon. W. H. Gibbs, Auditor of Public Accounts, shows that under Democratic rule, though the taxes have been materially reduced, the disbursements for the expenses of the State government, up to January 1, were so much below those of the previous year that there was left an excess of receipts amounting to over \$460,000, which is nearly equal to the estimated sum required for the total expenditures for the year 1877. The receipts from all sources for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1876, were \$981,373.25, while the disbursements by warrants for the same period amounted to \$518,709.03, against \$1,430,192.82, for the previous year.—

The Treasurer has retired outstanding certificates of indebtedness and paid bonds and interest amounting in the aggregate to \$301,728, leaving still a surplus of \$160,944, with about \$300,000 of the State tax of 1876 yet to be collected. The Auditor, in concluding his report, congratulates the Legislature upon the fact that under the new order of things complete harmony of action and a desire to promote the public weal have been the governing rule, and that Mississippi has entered upon a career of substantial prosperity. Facts like these explain the extraordinary political changes that have taken place among the more intelligent of the colored voters in the South—those who have sense enough to understand the extent of the robberies that have been perpetrated by the politicians who have represented Grant's administration in that part of the country.—*New York Sun.*

A NEW MOTOR.

Philadelphiaans are to be given a sight of a new machine, invented by a clergyman in Maryland, which is called the Bradley promoter, and it is described at length by a correspondent of the Philadelphia Bulletin. The writer claims that "the motor employed in this invention is a well-known agent, and one that is beyond comparison powerful in action and easy of management. Second, that the mode of utilizing it is marvellously simple, original and perfect. Third, that its economy is marked, being as one to five, if not to six or eight, in comparison with steam. Fourth, that it is managed so as to be positively non-explosive and without danger at any stage. Fifth, that the machine is suitable for all mechanical purposes; and finally, it is unlike anything else in the world of mechanics, and will excite an interest in economies and revolutionize the present mode of propulsion in every department of mechanical motion. The machine and its capacities are not simply a great invention, they are an inspiration, utilizing the forces of nature by the principles of natural laws, and conforming to the conceptions of man the perfection of the Divine intelligence in his works. In a few weeks the public will have an opportunity of seeing in operation in Philadelphia a promoter of the power of fifty horses, which is now nearly ready for exhibition."

A FLORIDA SCANDAL.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, sister of Plymouth's pastor and author of the Byron story, has found a scandal down in Florida to expose. She writes as follows to the *Christian Union*: "Two pairs of red birds have set up an establishment in our orchard, the males flapping and flaunting in the best Chinese vermilion coats, and the ladies more daintily attired in suits of reddish brown, with scarlet beaks and claws. Yesterday, as my gay lord and lady were making love in the most approved style, another lady red bird alighted on a neighboring bough and began singing her little song of 'Birdie, birdie, birdie.' Instantly my lady number one flew at her like a little red hot fiend and drove her out of sight and hearing. I don't know that my lord red cardinal had ever looked at the intruder; it is possible he may have cast an indiscreet eye that way and remarked: 'What a sweet voice that lady has!' If he did, he was soon taught better than that. No free love nonsense among birds!"

AN AMUSING INCIDENT.

A rather amusing incident is told as having occurred recently at a church in Connecticut not many miles from Fairfield. The clergyman, it would appear, desired to call the attention of his congregation to the fact that it being the last Sunday of the month he would administer the rite of baptism to children.—Previous to his having entered the pulpit he had received from one of his elders, who by the way was quite deaf, a notice to the effect that as the children would be present that P. M. and he had the new Sunday-school books ready for distribution, he would have them there to sell to all who desired them. After the sermon the clergyman began the notice of baptismal service, thus: "All of those having children and desiring to have them baptized will bring them this afternoon." At this point the deaf elder, hearing the mention of children, supposed it was something in reference to his books, and rising, said: "All of those having none, and desiring them, will be supplied by me for the sum of twenty-five cents."

The Boston Times, a Sunday paper, insists that the irreverent Boston boys sing a new version of "Hold the Fort," like this: Hold the forks, the knives are coming. The plates are on their way; Shout the chorus to your neighbor, Sling the hash this way. Boston must be a very wicked place.

FRIENDSHIP AND CIVILITY.

Be civil and obliging to all, dutiful where God and nature command you; but friend to one, and that friendship keep sacred, as the greatest tie upon earth, and be sure to ground it upon virtue; for no other is either happy or lasting.

A GEM.

Sidney Smith cut the following from a newspaper, and preserved it for himself: "When you rise in the morning, say that you will make the day blessed to a fellow creature. A left-off garment to the man that needs it; a kind word to the sorrowful; an encouraging expression to the dejected—trifles in themselves as light as air—will do at least for the twenty-four hours. And if you are young, depend upon it, it will tell when you are old; rest assured it will send you happily and gently down the stream of time to eternity. By the most simple arithmetical sum, look at the result. If you send one person away happy through the day, that is three hundred and sixty-five in the course of a year, and suppose you live forty years only after you have commenced that course of medicine, you have made fourteen thousand six hundred persons happy—at all events for a time."

WHEN AND HOW TO EAT FRUIT.

When fruit does harm it is because it is eaten at improper times, in improper quantities, or before it is ripened and fit for the human stomach. A distinguished physician has said that if his patients would make a practice of eating a couple of good oranges before breakfast, from February to June, his practice would be gone. The principle evil is that we do not eat enough of fruit; that we injure its finer qualities with sugar; that we drown them in cream. We need the medicinal action of the pure fruit acids in our system, and their cooling, corrective influence.—*Medical Journal.*

A fellow with side whiskers and a white necktie called into the office and said: "I was a little late in getting my work in on the ground pig, but here is something on love which I presume is worth about \$10." Then he recited through his nose as follows: "A passionate waltz in the ball room, A moonlight row on the river, An odor of pig's feet and onions And a paroxysmal shiver."

He was requested not to repeat the other seventeen verses, but to call around for a check next Christmas.

COLLAPSE OF REPUBLICAN PAPERS.

Three Republican papers have expired in Florida since the inauguration of Governor Drew—the Madison Recorder, Fernandina Observer and Gainesville Citizen. They derived their existence solely and entirely from official patronage, and when that prop was knocked from under them an immediate collapse was the result.

Marshal's Portrait of Hampton.

There are two distinct portraits of Gov. HAMPTON. The one issued by the "Hampton Portrait Company," of Charleston, S. C., is engraved in line by MARSHALL, and will be of increasing appearance, and life-size. There is also a print out representing the Governor. We suggest that our people wait and see both pictures, before choosing which they will have.

Marshall's famous engravings are attracting unusual attention. The superb large line engraving of Washington, from Stuart's celebrated oil portrait in the Boston Athenaeum—a plate valued at ten thousand dollars—when originally brought out about ten years ago, at once placed Mr. Marshall in the very front rank of engravers, ancient or modern, meeting, both in Europe and America, the most extravagant encomiums of artists, critics, and men of judgment. It was even selected for exhibition at the French Academy of Design, an honor accorded to none but the very highest works of art. It is, moreover, the best, indeed the only satisfactory, portrait of Washington that exists, and is the acknowledged standard "household engraving" of him. The late Edward Everett said of it: "The magnificent engraving of Stuart's head of Washington. It is truly a superb work." Bancroft, the historian, writes: "I have been for some years a collector of the many different engravings of the portraits of Washington. This is beyond comparison the best of them all—the only one that is perfectly satisfactory." Mr. George S. Hillard, the well known art critic, says: "Were it the head of some unknown person, a lover of art would be glad to have a copy of the engraving for its rare intrinsic merits, and every American should be ready to make some sacrifice in other ways in order to possess so satisfactory a representation of Washington." Marshall's R. E. Lee, just out, is a wonderful work, and in a few days his "Gov. Hampton" will go to the people of South Carolina and the country, a noble tribute to a great leader, who conquers by his high character and by peaceful means, not by the sword.—*News and Courier.*

And from the Columbia Register the accompanying letter:

THE HAMPTON PORTRAIT.—We publish for the information of the people of the State the following extract from a letter received from Charleston, addressed to Mr. C. P. Felham: "Some misapprehension exists as to the proprietorship in the Hampton Portrait Company. Permit me to say that a majority of the investment is held here. As one of the proprietors, I am attending to its affairs until other and permanent arrangements are concluded. I originated the project of a portrait of Governor Hampton in a high style of art, thinking it in a worthy manner in which to recognize his Excellency's public services to the people of this State during the past six months. Those services entitle him to be presented to his countrymen everywhere in a style equal to that in which Washington and Lee and other representative gentlemen of the country are shown.—Time was required for this great work, that care and skill should make it perfect. Its publication has been anticipated by another issue, of the merits of which the public can judge. In selecting an artist the gentlemen associated with me have given preference to Mr. Marshall.—Gustave Dore, the great artist of France declares him to be 'the veritable master of art in America.' If we do not realize all our expectations in a pecuniary point of view by reason of a different publication, we must accept that fortune—the penalty of attempting to do the best possible in art for our best man, we shall hope, nevertheless, to possess an ample reward in the production of a GRAND AND IMPROVED PORTRAIT, which will command an appreciative attention, if not so large as might have been under more propitious circumstances. In a very few days the public can judge for themselves, and can very well afford to wait a little, and make their choice with MARSHALL'S SUPERB WORK, BEFORE THEN.

WM. A. COURTENAY,
Charleston, S. C., February 5, 1877.

Genl's Hand Made Shoes.

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT just received, GEE & HUMPHRIES' Hotel Store.
April 21, '76

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